Express Mail Label No.: EV1. Date of Deposit: March 17, 2003

PATENT APPLICATION Atty Docket: 15966-557 RCE (Cura-57 RCE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PPLICANTS :

Shimkets and Prayaga

ial Number :

09/494,585

EXAMINER:

Christine Saoud

FILING DATE :

January 31, 2000

ART UNIT:

1647

FOR:

NOVEL FIBROBLAST GROWTH FACTOR AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Box RCE

MAR 1 7 2003

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

NG SAML

RECTANTIFICATION

TO SOLUTION

TO S Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a three (3) month extension of time for replying to the September 17, 2002, Final Office Action. With the extension, the present papers are due on or before March 17, 2003.

A check is enclosed to cover the \$465.00 Petition fee under 37 CFR \$1.17(a)(3). The Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference no.15966-557 (CURA-57). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 17, 2003

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

Kristin E. Konzak, Reg. No. 44,848

Attorney/Agent for Applicants

Please address all written correspondence to customer number 30623.

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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